(c) Generally the decisions of the Governing Body are unanimous, subject however, to the financial and service rules.

Grants to Improve sex ratio

1237. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Punjab is proposed to be given a special fund to formulate a plan to check the imbalance in sex ratio due to rising female foeticide in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of other States to whom such grant to improve sex ratio is proposed to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) In order to check female foeticide, the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation Prevention and Misuse) Act, 1994, was enacted and brought into operation from 1st January, 1996. Child sex ratio of Punjab is 793, which is lowest in th^ country. An amount of Rs. 8,00,000/- was released to Government of Punjab during 2001 - 2002 and Rs. 15 Lakhs during 2002-2003 for publicity under the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994.

Futher for the effective monitoring the implementation of the provisions of the Act, proper maintenance of records etc., a proposal was received from the State Government of Punjab for developing Application Software. Rs. 7,00,000/- has been sanctioned to them for this purpose.

(c) For publicity under the said Act during 2002-2003, funds have been sanctioned to Gujarat (Rs. 15 Lakh), Haryana (Rs. 15 Lakhs), Himachal Pradesh (Rs. 11 Lakh), Maharashtra (15 Lakh), Rajasthan (Rs. 15 Lakhs), Uttaranchal (Rs. 10 Lakh), Uttar Pradesh (Rs. 20 Lakh), Chandigarh (Rs. 5 Lakh), Daman & Diu (Rs. 5 Lakh) and Delhi (Rs. 15 Lakh).

Racket of Kidney Transplant in Kerala

1238. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

. (a) whether private hospitals in Kozhikode and Ernakulam are involved in the racket of Kidney transplant by luring poor tribals;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last one year; and

(c) the action proposed to stop such racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Sale and purhcase of human organs including kidney is banned under the provisions of the Transplantation of Human Organ Act, 1994.The Act has stringent provisions for punishing any one who commits such acts. Under Section i 3(2) of the Transplantation of Human Organ Act, 1994, the State Governments are empowered to appoint Appropriate Authorities for the purpose of the Act who are empowered to investigate any complaints of breach of provisions of the Act including those pertaining to sale and purchase of human organs including Kidney. The Act has been adopted by several States including the Government of Kerala.

National Population Fund

1239. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the controlling authority of the National Population fund has not been finalized so far; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER 'OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. A decision has already been taken to locate the National Population Stabilisation Fund (NPSF) in the Department of Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Free Drugs toTB Patients in Delhi

1240. SHRI YADLAPATIVENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched a scheme in Delhi to provide free drugs to T.B. patients even if they are getting treatment from private practitioners;